

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 L-03
/035 W

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P R 191106Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WAHSDC PRIORITY 7309

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 5290

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IS

SUBJECT: ISRAELI MEDIA REPORT ON US ACTION AGAINST AMERICAN CHARTER
FLIGHTS TO JERUSALEM AIRPORT

1. HAARETZ (HAVIV KANAAN) PRINTED FOLLOWING STORY ON
JULY 19:

BEGIN QUOTE: ON THE EVE ON THE TALKS BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER
MENACHEM BEGIN AND PRESIDENT CARTER, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT
CHOSE YESTERDAY TO FOLLOW THE EUROPEAN STATES IN SURRENDERING
TO ARAB PRESSURE, AND TWO AMERICAN AIRLINE COMPANIES
WERE FORBIDDEN FROM IMPLEMENTING CHARTER FLIGHTS FROM THE
U.S. TO JERUSALEM.

2. THESE FLIGHTS WERE TO BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR,
WERE PLANNED TO CONTINUE ALL YEAR ROUND, AND IT WAS
CALCULATED THEY WOULD BRING SOME 50,000 TOURISTS TO ISRAEL.

3. THE OPERATION OF CHARTER FLIGHTS FROM THE U.S. TO
JERUSALEM (CHARTER FLIGHTS CURRENTLY GO TO BEN GURION
AIRPORT AND EILAT) WERE TO BE INITIATED BY A NUMBER OF
LARGE TRAVEL AGENCIES IN THE U.S., AMONG THEM THE FIRM
OF ARTHUR FROMMER. PLAN AMERICAN AIRLINE COMPANY DECIDED
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TO BEGIN THEIR FLIGHTS FROM NEW YORK, AND CAPITAL AIRWAYS
FROM DALLAS.

4. AVIAITON AUTHORITIES IN THE U.S. HAD ALREADY APPROVED
THE REQUESTS OF THE TWO FIRMS, AND AGREEMENT BY THE
ISRAELI AVIATION ADMINISTRATOR HAD ALSO BEEN GIVEN.

5. ISRAELI TOURISM CIRCLES WERE SHOCKED YESTERDAY WHEN

THEY LEARNED THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD REQUESTED
AMERICAN AVIATION AUTHORITIES TO CANCEL THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF CHARTER FLIGHTS TO JERUSALEM. TRAVEL AGENTS
RECALLED THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD NEVER INTERVENED
IN THE AVIATION POLICIES OF AMERICAN AIRLINES IN THE
WESTERN WORLD OTHER THAN DURING THE AMERICAN BOYCOTT OF
COMMUNIST CUBA. END QUOTE.

6. FOR DEPARTMENT: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE UPDATE
ON U.S. POLICY TOWARD THESE CHARTERS.
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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Sent Date: 19-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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